

Remarks

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11 under 102(e) as being anticipated by Sugeta et al, US 2006/0258809.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 9, 10 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugeta et al cited above in view of Isozaki et al. US 2002/0037946. The Examiner has also rejected Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 under USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2004-77951 in view of Thackeray, US 5,968,712. In addition the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, and 11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being patentable over EP 1223470 or JP 10-73927 in view of JP 2004-77951 and Thackeray. The Examiner has objected to claim 3 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended. The applicants have amended claim 1 to relate to a composition comprising a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble crosslinking agent, a solvent consisting of water or a mixed solvent of water and a water-soluble organic solvent, a polyallylamine derivative where the amino group of the polyallylamine is partially protected at least by one selected from the group of an alkyloxycarbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group and an alkylcarbonyl group, and a quaternary amine compound selected from a group of dimethylammonium salt, trimethylammonium salt, tetramethylammonium salt, dimethylethylbenzylammonium salt and N-methylpyridinium salt and that pH value of the fine pattern forming material exceeds 7.0.

Serial No.: 10/565,113
Filing Date: January 17, 2006

Customer No.: 26,289
Attorney Docket: 2003JP306

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, she is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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